

# the milliwatt



The award-winning monthly publication of  
The Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society  
P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

November, 2016

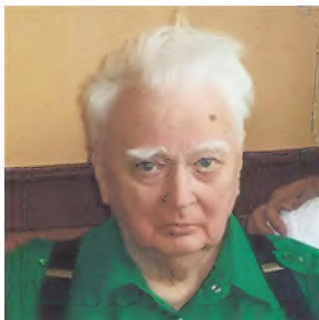
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## SILENT KEY

Heru Ra Walmsley,  
W3WVV

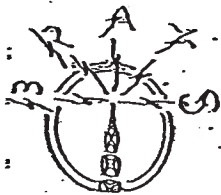
October 21, 2016, at age 90

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I am so sad to report the passing of Heru, W3WVV. Heru joined the BRATS in 1976 and became one of the technical directors. For years, he held the BRATS Answer men on the air, and if he did not know the answer, he found it out for the next show.... Heru Participated in many meetings with his famous exploding hot dog trick.. we will miss him dearly.... Heru was also very active in the Historical Electronics Museum....



# the Milliwatt

The award-winning monthly  
publication of The BRATS.  
Items herein may be reprinted  
with appropriate credit.

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX, Editor

## Some Thoughts

I apologize for missing the October issue.  
I have combined it with the November  
Issue. We still have not heard of the date  
and place of the November and December  
meetings. When we do, we will announce  
if on the air. Also, check the home page.....  
73, Mayer, W3GXX

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The Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282  
A non-profit organization under section 501 (c) (3)  
of the internal Revenue Code and a non-profit  
corporation in the State of Maryland  
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Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX

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## BRATS REPEATERS

Linked, WB3DZO  
147.03+, 224.96-, 448.325-  
Stand alone:  
443.350+, 224.8-  
Packet Nodes:  
W3GXT=5 145.05  
W3GXT-10 224.52  
ATV repeaters W3WCO  
inputs: 426.25, 1253.25  
Outputs: 439.25, 911.25

## BRATS WEEKLY NETS

Monday 9 PM Traffic and Info  
Tues. 11:45 Informal ATV  
Wednes. 9 PM CATS ATV  
Thurs 9 PM BRATS ATV  
Sat. 1 PM Weekly News Bul.  
Sun 8 PM BRATS ATV net  
AS Needed: Skywarn

## BRATS Board of Directors

Through December, 2016:

W3MSR, K9FXV

Through December, 2017:

K2GZL, N3GXH

Listen to the weekly News  
Bulletin on 147.03/R  
Saturday at 1 PM  
Join us for the weekly  
Traffic and info Net on  
Mondays at 9PM on 147.03/R

## A PLAN TO TAKE SPACE WEATHER BY STORM

Hams deal with space weather regularly -- but what about everyone else? Yes, there is a plan - or there will be one soon in the U.S. Federal agencies now have until April to devise a comprehensive plan to predict, detect and deal with solar flares and other so-called space weather disturbances that could mess with the nation's technology, everything from GPS systems to satellites to the power grid itself.

President Barack Obama's Oct. 13 Executive Order directed Homeland Security, NASA, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Interior among other offices, to find ways to be alert to such occurrences, including geomagnetic storms. Obama ordered the agencies to find ways to protect or quickly repair the infrastructure, consistent with the goal identified in the nation's 2015 National Space Weather Action Plan.

The order outlines the implementation of the plan as a coordinated effort among agencies.  
(NBC NEWS, WHITEHOUSE.GOV)

## WA7BNM Contest Calendar

Nov. 11 -	NCCC RTTY Sprint
Nov 13-14	CW-WE Contest
Nov 19-20	ARRL EME Contest
Nov 19	RSGB 1.8MHz Contest CW
Nov 25	CQ WW DX CONTESTCW

## New Business excerpts last BRATS meeting There was no October meeting

- NPTOA: KevinS, KB3PLX, will contact MarkR, W3MSR, re. Nov. outing to Ft. McHenry.
- Balloon Project: camera package is together and was demo'd. Uses RPi0 with camera. Package will include 2M APRS, 70cm telemetry, 5GHz WiFi, HiRes video.
- Hospital Involvement: Brainstormed new service can we bring to hospitals. Backup phone link via the 5GHz network? Radios in hospitals not covered by BaCo ACS, maybe with BaCi RACES / BaCi Health Dept.?
- DMR Radios: KevinS showed Tyt MD-380 and described capabilities. Interest among attendees.

Ted, WA3AER  
Secretary

## **CANADA 150 ANNIVERSARY and LIGHTHOUSE ACTIVATION**

There's nothing like a lighthouse to help illuminate a special occasion -- in this case, the 150th anniversary of Canada's confederation. We hear more from Amateur Radio Newsline's John Williams, VK4JJW.

When it turns 150 years old next year, Canada will become even more of an OM - that is, if a nation itself can be considered an OM. Amateurs however celebrate just this kind of special longevity and in that spirit, there will be an amateur radio activation of the East Point Lighthouse on Prince Edward Island which was recently named Canada's Confederation lighthouse. The lighthouse's site manager, Nova MacIsaac, told the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation that the lighthouse is the only one in the country that was built the same year as Confederation - which would be 1867 - that is still functioning as a lighthouse. That designation makes it eligible for funding to upgrade its exterior and make other improvements. Meanwhile, Prince Edward Island amateur George Dewar VY2GF is now hard at work planning an activation befitting this milestone birthday. Since that's next year, the event is going to come up fast -- like a flash of light, even.

## **A GREAT SIGNAL REPORT FOR THE DUKE AND DUCHESS**

A visit to Canada's Yukon territory, where British royals have broken new ground -- not in construction but in communication

: It has been said that some husbands and wives eventually learn to communicate in code. Though the Duke and the Duchess of Cambridge could hardly be considered an old married couple, they have certainly embraced the "code" part -- and added a little modern touch of a Tweet.

The royals were making their first official visit to Canada's Yukon territory late last month and wished to sign the visitors' book inside the historic telegraph office of the Yukon's MacBride Museum. In this case, it was an online guest book. How could they make their presence known? They tweeted -- but in Morse Code, with the help of telegraph operator Doug Bell. At 90 years of age, the former World War II radio operator knows his way around the dots and dashes and was the perfect guide for Kate and William.

There inside the Whitehorse Telegraph Office, Doug tapped out their message on a 100-year-old key while husband and wife depressed the "send" button that dispatched the message to the Telegraph-to-Tweet Twitter account. The telegraph-to-tweet technology was developed by a Canadian company called Make IT Solutions.

The message became the online guestbook's first entry and read simply: "The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, September 2016, Whitehorse Yukon." No translation needed there.

## 425 DX Bulletin

- 5H - Maurizio, IK2GZU will be active again as 5H3MB from Ilembula, Tanzania from 7 November to 2 December, while doing volunteer work for the local mission. QSL via IK2GZU (direct or bureau), LoTW and eQSL. Log search on Club Log.
- 5Z - Tom, DJ6TF and Reiner, DL7KL will be active as 5Z4/DJ6TF and 5Z4/DL7KL from Kenya on 16-30 November, CQ WW DX CW Contest included. They will be QRV on 80-10 metres. QSL via home calls. [TNX NG3K]
- PJ4 - Look for Joel PJ4/N5JR, Jim PJ4/NT5V and Jeff PJ4/K5JP to be active from Bonaire on 6-13 November. They will operate CW, SSB and RTTY on 160-10 metres. QSL via home calls, direct or bureau, and LoTW. [TNX N5JR]
- ] TL - Silvano, I2YSB and the Italian DXpedition Team have announced that they will be active as TL8T from the Central African Republic in February 2017, exact dates TBA. They will operate CW and SSB on 160-10 metres, and RTTY on one band to be selected depending to propagation. QSL via I2YSB. A band & mode survey can be found on [www.i2ysb.com/idx/](http://www.i2ysb.com/idx/). [TNX IK7JWY]
- V4 - Once again John, W5JON will be active as V47JA from St. Kitts (NA-104) from 15 November until 15 December. He will operate SSB on 160-6 metres. QSL via W5JON (direct only) and LoTW. [TNX NG3K]

## SPECIAL EVENT STATION BOOSTS UNICEF

In another international event, radio operators in Poland have taken up the cause of starving children through a special event station that's trading QSOs for cash. Here's Newsline's John Williams, VK4JJW.

The hunger and poverty so prevalent among youngsters in southern Asia and sub-Saharan Africa is being felt now as well in the world's amateur radio community, which is raising consciousness as well as funds to help. Organized by Hams for Kids, a project of the Polish Amateur Radio Union, PZK, the project will donate 2 cents to UNICEF for every unique QSO with station SN4KIDS. Operating on the HF bands the station will continue to operate until the 13th of November. The station can also be found on 6 meters.

Amateurs have been eagerly making contact and the organizers have been reporting on their Facebook page that the number of QSOs has been growing. As of the 15th of October, they reported more than 2,000 QSOs -- and it's far from over yet.

So be listening for SN4KIDS and know that your contact translates into something more than just sending QSL cards. Hams are also sending aid. (POLISH AMATEUR RADIO UNION)

## BARC VE EXAMS

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church  
905 Frederic Rd. Catonsville, MD

## PRE-REGISTER

To pre-register by email:  
[info@veteaam.org](mailto:info@veteaam.org)

- Registration starts at 1:30 PM.
- Exams begin at 2 PM.
- No one admitted after the exams begin.

Directions to the Baltimore VE Team's new exam site.

Please preregister so we can contact you in the event that the exam location site changes.

## BARC MEETINGS

First Wednesday at 7 PM  
Wegman's Hunt Valley  
Upstairs dining room.

## CARA

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:30 PM  
Columbia Gateway Center  
Room 401; Columbia, MD

## 2016 Testing Schedule

(The date or location is subject to change;  
please preregister.)

Saturday	October 1
Saturday	November 5
Saturday	December 3

## LARC VE EXAMS

364 Main St. Laurel, MD  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. at 9 AM;  
John, WB3GXW,  
301-572-5124

MD Mobileers VE Exams at  
National Electronics Museum.  
Linthicum  
4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 6 PM  
Mike, KA2JAI, 443-310-4902  
[KA2JAI@arrl.net](mailto:KA2JAI@arrl.net)

## Milliwatt Swap Shop

Ads are free and get results!

Mail your ad to: BRATS, Box 5915

Baltimore, MD 21282-5915 or

mail to [w3gxxk@verizon.net](mailto:w3gxxk@verizon.net)

FOR SALE: Hustler G7-144 \$125.  
HRO price \$199. N3BHE  
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SPECIAL: ICOM BC110 battery  
charger, 12vDC, 200 ma for ICOM  
T8A or equivalent, cost \$46.  
Make me a reasonable offer.  
Mayer, [w3gxxk@verizon.net](mailto:w3gxxk@verizon.net)

JADE COMPPUTERS  
1009 Ingleside Ave. Ballo 21228.  
443-667-4187.

[joe@jadecomputers.us](mailto:joe@jadecomputers.us)  
web page design, hosting,  
order PC ONLINE.  
<http://www.jadecomputers.us>

Antique radio repair, restoration  
Eric WA3TAD, audio visual service,  
Retro radio, 3401 Chestnut Ave.  
Ballo. 21211, 410-467-3620  
[wa3lad@comcast.net](mailto:wa3lad@comcast.net)

WANTED AC Gilbert erector sets:  
Old, new, large, small, need not be  
Complete. CASH PAID!  
Lewis, 410-296-4874.

WANTED: Manual for MFJ 1452,  
WB2LOO, [gkm313@verizon.net](mailto:gkm313@verizon.net)

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Your ad would have appeared here  
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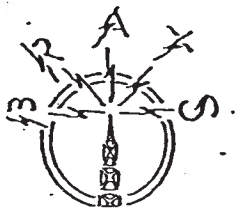
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Phone/text 516-658-6947; email: [hamradiomanuals@aol.com](mailto:hamradiomanuals@aol.com)

Joe and Crew, JHS 22 ARC (WB2JKJ)

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November, 2016

## THIS MYSTERY WAS IN THE BAG

We close this week's report with this thought: As hams, we are proud to help our community, and even more proud to help fellow hams. What happens, though, when hams come to the aid of a totally different kind of ham? This story takes us to the Philippines, where Vladimir Sarmiento DW4VLS seemed on his way to becoming a hero after he'd stopped to aid a bicyclist in distress. The man had discovered a large closed garbage bag near the embankment of a creek and immediately feared the worst - that inside was the body of yet another victim of an extra-judicial killing. The stench was so bad he could barely stand it. When the cyclist flagged down Vladimir, the ham got on the radio to Alfredo Panti DU4AAP who, in turn, notified police. Authorities immediately dispatched an inspector to the site, proclaiming it a crime scene and roping it off. The long investigation began.

Four hours later, however, the investigation ended abruptly just as the municipal health officer, Dr. Elva Joson, arrived and opened the bag. Inside, the doctor found a body in the state of advanced decomposition.

The body was that of a pig.

With the story having morphed into a tale of barnyard justice gone wrong, authorities concluded this was less a case of homicide than simply.....HAMicide.

(CATANDUANES TRIBUNE)

Renew: Regular \$15; retired/student/disabled \$10; Family \$20

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: BRATS, P.O. Box 5915; Baltimore, MD 21282-5915